

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8469–S8492

Measures Introduced: Four bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1977–1980. **Pages S8489–90**

Measures Passed:

Risk-Based Security Screening for Members of the Armed Forces Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1801, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for expedited security screenings for members of the Armed Forces, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8485–86**

Hutchison Amendment No. 1458, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S8485–86**

Balanced Budget Amendment Joint Resolutions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that pursuant to the Budget Control Act of 2011, at approximately 12 p.m., on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration, and Senate begin consideration of S.J. Res. 10, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to balancing the budget, and S.J. Res. 24, proposing an amendment to the Constitution relative to requiring a balanced budget; provided further, that the titles of both joint resolutions be amended as follows so they can comply with the Budget Control Act of 2011: Joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; that there be up to 8 hours of debate on the joint resolutions to run concurrently during Tuesday's session, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; that when the Senate continues consideration of the joint resolutions, en bloc, on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, there be up to ten minutes of debate equally divided between the two Leaders or their designees, prior to votes on passage of the joint resolutions in the following order: S.J. Res. 24; and S.J. Res. 10; provided further, that there be two minutes, equally divided, between the votes; and that

there be no amendments, motions or points of order in order to either joint resolution prior to the votes.

Page S8492

Aponte Nomination—Cloture: Senate resumed consideration of Mari Carmen Aponte, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador. **Pages S8476–85**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 49 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 227), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S8485

Subsequently, Senator Reid entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the nomination of Mari Carmen Aponte, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador. **Page S8485**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Norman L. Eisen, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic (Recess Appointment). **Pages S8476–85, S8492**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 70 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 226), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

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Messages from the House: **Page S8489**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S8489, S8492**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S8489**

Executive Communications: **Page S8489**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S8490–91**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S8491**

Additional Statements: **Pages S8488–89**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S8491–92**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S8492**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S8492**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—227) **Pages S8484, S8485**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:23 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S8492.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 6 public bills, H.R. 3632–3637; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 490, 492 were introduced. **Pages H8727–28**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8728**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 313, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify that persons who enter into a conspiracy within the United States to possess or traffic illegal controlled substances outside the United States, or engage in conduct within the United States to aid or abet drug trafficking outside the United States, may be criminally prosecuted in the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–324 Pt. 1);

H.R. 1264, to designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the “M.D. Anderson Plaza” and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy of M.D. Anderson (H. Rept. 112–325);

H.R. 2668, to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the “Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station” (H. Rept. 112–326);

H.R. 2167, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to change the threshold number of shareholders for required registration under that Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–327);

H. Res. 491, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3630) to provide incentives for the creation of jobs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–328); and Conference report on H.R. 1540, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 112–329). **Pages H8356–H8726, H8727**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Denham to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8323**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:01 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H8323**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 277 yeas to 74 nays with 2 voting “present,” Roll No. 915. **Pages H8341–42**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:04 p.m. and reconvened at 4:15 p.m. **Page H8324**

Late Report: Agreed that the managers on the part of the House have until midnight tonight, December 12th, to file the conference report to accompany H.R. 1540. **Page H8324**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Master Sergeant Daniel L. Fedder Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 3220, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 Evergreen Square SW in Pine City, Minnesota, as the “Master Sergeant Daniel L. Fedder Post Office,” by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 351 yeas with none voting “nay,” Roll No. 913; **Pages H8325–26, H8340**

Wayne Grisham Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 2158, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14901 Adelfa Drive in La Mirada, California, as the “Wayne Grisham Post Office,” by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 353 yeas with 1 voting “nay,” Roll No. 914; and **Pages H8327–28, H8340–41**

Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011: H.R. 2845, amended, to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation and to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline. **Pages H8330–39**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:49 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H8340**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Amending title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research: S. 384, to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research; **Pages H8324–25**

Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 3246, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15455 Manchester Road in Ballwin, Missouri, as the “Specialist Peter J. Navarro Post Office Building”; **Pages H8326–27**

William T. Trant Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 2767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8 West Silver Street in Westfield, Massachusetts, as the “William T. Trant Post Office Building”; **Pages H8328–29**

Brian A. Terry Memorial Act: H.R. 2668, to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the “Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station”; and **Pages H8329–30**

Designating the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the “M.D. Anderson Plaza”: H.R. 1264, amended, to designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the “M.D. Anderson Plaza” and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy of M.D. Anderson. **Pages H8343–44**

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Jackson (IL) motion to adjourn by a recorded vote of 0 ayes to 355 noes, Roll No. 916. **Page H8342**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8323.

Senate Referral: S. 1974 was held at the desk. **Page H8323**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8340,

H8340–41, H8341–42 and H8342. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2011

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 3630, the “Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011.” The Committee granted, by a record vote of 7 to 3, a closed rule providing 90 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Testimony was heard from Chairman Camp; Rep. Levin; Rep. Jackson Lee of Texas; and Rep. Johnson of Georgia.

Joint Meetings

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Conferees agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 1540, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: To hold hearings to examine MF Global bankruptcy, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Business meeting to consider the nominations of Maurice A. Jones, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary, and Carol J. Galante, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development,

and Thomas Hoenig, to be Vice Chairperson and a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) part II, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine helping homeowners harmed by foreclosures, focusing on ensuring accountability and transparency in appeals, 2:30 p.m., SD-538.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Business meeting to consider the nomination of Rebecca R. Wodder, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife, to hold hearings to examine our nation's water infrastructure, focusing on challenges and opportunities, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Children and Families, to hold hearings to examine child abuse, focusing on protection, prevention, intervention, and deterrence, 10:15 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on the Judiciary: To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Watford, of California, to be

United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing on H.R. 1823, the "Criminal Code Modernization and Simplification Act of 2011." 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution, hearing entitled "The Costs and Burdens of Civil Discovery." 1:30 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on the following: H.R. 2512, the "Three Kids Mine Remediation and Reclamation Act"; and H.R. 3479, the "Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Act of 2011." 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled "The Effectiveness of Our Nation's Public Alert System." 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, December 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond two hours), Senate will begin consideration of S.J. Res. 10, Balanced Budget Amendment, and S.J. Res. 24, Balanced Budget Amendment, with up to eight hours of debate, en bloc.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, December 13

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 3630—Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of the following suspensions: (1) H.R. 3421—Fallen Heroes of 9/11 Act; (2) H.R. 886—United States Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act; (3) H.R. 313—Drug Trafficking Safe Harbor Elimination Act of 2011; (4) H.R. 1905—Iran Threat Reduction Act of 2011; (5) H.R. 2105—Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Reform and Modernization Act of 2011; (6) H. Res. 306—Urging the Republic of Turkey to Safeguard Its Christian Heritage and to Return Confiscated Church Properties; and (7) H. Res. 376—Calling for the repatriation of POW/MIAs and abductees from the Korean War.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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